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AMAA

Newsletter

FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE OF THE ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.
140 FOREST AVENUE, PARAMUS, N.J. 07652

Editor G. H. CHOPOURIAN

VOLUME IX

FEBRUARY, 1975

1882-84 No. 1

Advertising and Work Christianized

By THE EDITOR

I have a letter before me dated December 17, 1974, from Mr. Ares Davidian, President of Kenares Furniture Industries Ltd., who also has a subsidiary company called Chairs by Klaren. He mailed to me a copy of the advertisement he had sent to his clientele and said in the accompanying letter, "Thought you would get a kick out of this". An important paragraph in the advertisement received a great deal of reaction from customers, revealing the truth that many people in business are starving for the Word of God. I quote the paragraph referred to: "I write more as a theology teacher and seminary graduate than as president of Klaren today. We want a good new period in America. We can accomplish this by several methods. One is hard work. The other hard prayer. I'll never forget learning from my professors in seminary, 'Work as though everything depended on you, pray as though everything depended on God.' Our great nation needs people who believe this. No matter what happens, with this trust we will build a better business, a better nation and a better family. There may be a thing about inflation and even recession, but to those who love HIM and work unceasingly, business grows, the nation grows, and all are blessed. Perhaps it is the 'old old story' of hard work — hard prayer that's needed. With it the furniture industry and all America can win in 1975. With work and prayer as our guide who can stand against us."

I have also a clipping before me from a newspaper, one portion of which reads — "Guard against being a time thief. Half of the total number of workers who don't really give a day's work for a day's pay are stealing \$60 billion a year from American business and all bosses know this and resent it."

I have always been fascinated by Calvin's concept of vocation. He believed that God has placed a grave responsibility upon Christians to put into any

An Open Letter to our Constituency

February 1, 1975

Dear Friends of the A.M.A.A.

The formation in 1971 of the *Armenian Evangelical Union of North America* (AEUNA) is the most important accomplishment in recent years by our Armenian Evangelical Churches. The Union (uniting our 22 churches in the East, West and Canada) has worked with diligence through its member churches, through the missionary outreach of the AMAA, and within the life of all Armenians to strengthen its role as the Evangelical reality among our people.



The Evangelicals are a small segment of our Armenian people. Yet, they have always been a most valuable and constructive element in our community.

To meet its many obligations, the AEUNA has undertaken a singularly important 75th Anniversary One-Million-Dollar Campaign under the chairmanship of the Rev. Vartan Hartunian.

work they undertake, no matter how humble, everything they have and without grudge and grumbling. Calvin challenged Christians to consider their work to be a sacred assignment from God.

We, in the AMAA circles, have had persons who were conscious of this beautiful concept of vocation. As a result they were able to give of themselves faithfully, fully and thoroughly enriching the Association. They were also able to find deep joy and fulfillment.

Individuals need the concept, the churches need it, the nation needs it, the AMAA needs it. We would all be better off in every way.



We believe that a strong and financially capable Union is essential for the future of our churches and of our ethnic well being in the USA and Canada. It is no less so for the AMAA which is the missionary arm of the AEUNA. The harmonious cooperation during so many years between the AEUNA and the AMAA — under the leadership of the Rev. Harry M. Missirlian and presently of the Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian — augurs well for the future of these two organizations so intimately related.

The AMAA proudly supports this campaign because it believes in its noble aims.



We therefore appeal to your usual sense of concern for all that is in the service of God and our people. We respectfully ask that you contribute understandingly and generously to this campaign and thus join others in assuring its success and the fulfillment of all the needs of our churches.

With thanks for your cooperation, we remain, on behalf of the AMAA,

Very truly yours,

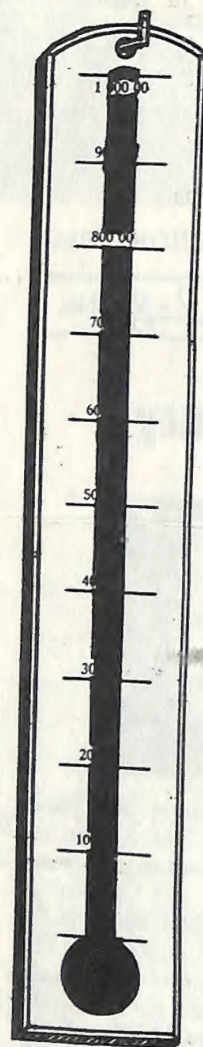
Edward M. Kavjian, Pres.

George Philibosian, Immed. Past Pres.

Dr. G. H. Chopourian, Exec. Sec'y

247-87

ENDOWMENT FUND FOR MINISTERS' AND MINISTERS' WIDOWS' PENSION



We are delighted to announce the achieving of the Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Pension Endowment Fund goal of \$100,000.

We were helped to achieve the goal by the amicable concern of three generous persons. Only a short while back, we had reached \$91,000. We were guided to phone Miss Leila Karagheusian, Mrs. Flora Sarkisian and Mr. Stephen Mugar and ask them to pledge \$3,000 each to put us over the goal. They did and we have achieved our Campaign goal. Thank you one and all. Our Annual Report will list the "Funders".

There are still about 75 persons who received letters requesting their participation. We hope that they will send in their pledges as an act of celebration!

**GOAL FOR
\$100,000
FULFILLED**

NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the Annual Meeting of the Association on October 13, 1974, the following persons were elected as Board members according to ballots returned:

Charles H. DeMirjian, Dr. Peter Doghramji, Armen Dohanian, Mrs. Lillian L. Hartunian, Samuel Hekemian, Jr., Rev. Harry M. Missirlian, George Philibosian.

The new officers of the Association are listed on our letterhead and we kindly request that those receiving our communications note who those officers are.

Are you interested in a most instructive Eastern Christianity Seminar beginning April 30, 1975, from Chicago and New York, to May 18, 1975, returning from Geneva after visits to Moscow, Kiev, Erivan, Etchmiadzin, Bucharest, Istanbul? Write to:

Eastern Christianity Seminar
c/o Dr. C. S. Calian
2570 Asbury Road
Dubuque, Iowa 52001

The Story of Vacation Bible Schools, Inc.

By EDWARD M. K. MURRAY*

Hasmig Collier and Barkev Darakjian in Beirut, Arpine Mashigian in Teheran and Krikor Demirjian in Athens have much in common as representatives of AMAA. They share another link in the financial support they receive from an unusual organization, Vacation Bible Schools, Inc. For more than fifty years this little-known unit has shared in the Christian education of millions of underprivileged children throughout the world.

Idle children, idle students and idle churches were the elements which stimulated the Rev. Robert Boville to found the Daily Vacation Bible School movement in New York's East Side in 1901. As a worker in the Baptist City Mission, he saw a means of creating a new source of evangelical Christian training during summer vacations for youngsters who had few benefits of Christian upbringing in their homes.

The idea was so right for its time that the movement soon spread to other denominations and to other cities. Within twenty years, there were more than 10,000 Daily Vacation Bible Schools throughout the U. S. with an enrollment of about one million children taught by some 50,000 volunteer teachers drawn from churches, colleges and the laity.

Dr. Boville eventually took his idea to China, where over 30,000 Chinese Christian student volunteers were soon working with nearly half a million children in thousands of DVBS. From China the work spread rapidly to India and Egypt, Palestine and Syria as well as to Japan and Korea, Europe and Latin America — sponsored by mission groups of many denominations and by Christian colleges.

By 1921, Dr. Boville saw the need to form a World Association of Daily Vacation Bible Schools to provide expertise and financial support for the training of DVBS leaders and teachers and the preparation of appropriate Christian education materials.

About this time, a young minister working with the Young Men's Christian Association — who had taught Vacation Bible Schools since his student days — joined Dr. Boville as Executive Secretary of the fledgling Association. The Rev. John A. Murray, Jr. continued in this

*Mr. Edward M. K. Murray is the nephew of the Executive Secretary of the World Association of Daily Vacation Bible Schools founded in 1921 and is presently the President of the Vacation Bible Schools, Inc. Mr. Murray, a graduate of Williams College, where the American Mission concept was conceived by young men caught in a haystack during a rain storm, is a distinguished gentleman whose philosophical training breeds confidence and respect.

work until his death in 1973 at the age of 86. During his tenure, the \$14,000 which Dr. Boville had contributed as "seed money" grew to nearly \$1 million through careful investment. The income today is used to help support DVBS work in 19 countries throughout the world.

After Rev. Murray's death, the directors of the Association weighed the merits of dissolving the organization and distributing its capital among various church mission groups. However, it was decided that the dreams to which Dr. Boville and Mr. Murray had devoted their lives could best be served by continuing to control the funds while giving groups like the AMAA more responsibility for their distribution and supervision of their use.

In 1974, the Association and its sister financial arm, the World Foundation of Daily Vacation Bible Schools, Inc., were merged into a streamlined organization, Vacation Bible Schools, Inc. and Rev. Murray's nephew, Edward M. K. Murray, was elected President.

VBS, Inc. is one of the rare philanthropic organizations that has no paid staff. Mr. Murray and the four Directors — all officers of various church organizations — devote many hundreds of hours maintaining contact with missions throughout the world and with denominational leaders such as Dr. Chopourian, as well as supervising the investment portfolio which makes their work possible.

There is no way of computing the number of young lives touched by the activities which Vacation Bible Schools, Inc. helps to support. Down through the years its programs have spread far beyond the traditional DVBS. In Taiwan, it assists in the publication of tens of thousands of copies of Christian education materials that are used throughout southeast Asia. Its representative in Egypt has recruited and trained more than 700 student teachers who work with over 16,000 children each year in hundreds of small towns and villages with no Christian Churches. In Italy, VBS, Inc. helps to support a Christian orphanage. In France, it aids a minister who operates Bible Clubs in thirteen industrial cities to shelter and train young people from laboring families whose only playgrounds are the streets of slum areas. From Bolivia to Cyprus, from Sarawak to Zaire the legacy of Dr. Boville's vision lives on through "seed money" provided by VBS, Inc. and the efforts of thousands of dedicated Christian leaders and lay volunteers working together in His name.

ACTION IN IRAN MISSION

Great things are happening in Teheran: children are being turned to Christ, youth are being trained for Christian leadership and inspiration is flowing into the life of the Church in Teheran. Here are some of the highlights since August that we'd like to present to our readers:



• **Camping for Children in the Evangelical Garden** — A Christian Center founded by the Rev. William Miller with the first donation being from a newly-born 8 year old girl called Mariette Michaelian, provided special care, good nourishment, rest and participation in games, exercises, swimming and excursions to children coming from Narmak, Mejdieh and Zurkesh quarters. They exclaimed at the time of departure, "What a good time we had!"

• **Youth Conference for Christian Endeavorers** — A lively program of worship, Bible study, songs, rest, games, evening gatherings, camp fires and prayers was carried on. They all unanimously assured Pastor Khachadourian that they had come genuinely for the purpose of learning the Word of God better and the saving power of Jesus Christ. Our missionary to Iran, Mrs. Arpine Mahshigian Aghabegian, was also at the Camp and the Christian Endeavor Youth Conference.

• **Heavy Snow Fails to Deter Attendance at the Friday Christian School at Mejdieh** — The children walked a long dis-

tance in the heavy snow and arrived one-half hour before worship time. It is a pleasure to see children have such keen desire for the Word of God.

• **Christian Endeavor Groups Perform Plays** — December was a time of deep joy for the Junior and Senior Christian Endeavorers who put on two short plays for a large congregation.

• **Christmas Gifts to a Large Group of Children** — Christmas gifts to 160 children from Teheran, Narmak and Mejdieh were distributed, with assistance from the United Armenian Congregational Church and the Evangelical Church of Teheran.

We praise God for the lively Christian movement in Teheran*, sustained by the Church leadership and our Arpine. We plead for your prayers for this important mission.

*The Mission in Iran is being supported by regular annual sponsors. We have 28 sponsors who provide \$1,485 against the Mission budget of \$7,500. Our prayers are that others will become sponsors of the Iran Mission with an annual payment of \$25, \$50 or \$100 so that the AMAA may be enabled to underwrite the budget provision fully.

What Would You Do If You Were the Executive Secretary

A school Principal, who is also a pastor, writes the following from the Middle East to the Executive Secretary.

"We resemble someone who is sitting on fire. People are very poor. We increased the school tuition a little to make ends meet. Some parents returned home from registration in tears saying, 'How shall

KESSAB CHURCH PROJECT

Mr. Albert Koundakjian, who initiated the construction of the church building in Kessab, has reported to the AMAA, through which organization most of the funds received were channelled. Contributions from many organizations, individuals both Armenian and non-Armenian and Kessabtzis, amounted to \$23,871. We are very happy to report that the construction work has been completed with the exception of some small amount of work left such as sealing the roof against wetness. Actually, the initiation of this project started with inspiration from Samuel Giragossian who started the project of such a church building in his home town of Kessab with an initial generous donation and smaller additions from time to time. The monument is now a testimonial to the great sacrifices and efforts of numerous individuals, but, without the drive of Mr. Albert Koundakjian, the project might not have reached its final conclusion.

The project was not dependent on funds from the AMAA but the resources of the AMAA offices were utilized for the purpose of assisting the completion of this project. The AMAA is grateful to a large number of individuals and organizations for their assistance, and wish to thank and congratulate them.

we be able to pay?" while others stop me in the street with a strong attempt to kiss my hand, 'Budveli, I beg of you, reduce the tuition fee.' My heart aches. What can I do? To whom can I turn? To whom can I speak?"

In the face of such pleadings, the Executive Secretary, not made of stone, sheds a salty tear and writes: "My dear friend, please understand that we too are having our hard times. It is a difficult year." And he waits for the philanthropists to encourage him to provide for the needs.

The Inspirational Corner

takes over," is being reproduced as follows:

One time when I was with my father on one of his trips into the northwest of Turkey, we stopped at a primitive inn. As we were about to settle for the night, a man came to tell my father that a group of bandits was trailing us.

At once we took the dangerous mountain road. The night was light enough for us to glimpse the frightening ravine below and the narrow road the horse trod. I clung to my father, shaking with fright. He put his warm, sturdy hand

upon mine and said, "Look up, Elizabeth, to the stars and the hills, up to God from whom comes our help."

Somehow that phrase "Look up, Elizabeth" has stuck with me all these years and comes back whenever I find myself looking at the dark side of life, lost in fear, doubt, and disappointment.

How beautiful the starry sky looked that night, how silent and majestic the hills. I also remember how faith rushed into my soul, driving out the fearful thoughts and in their place giving me love, hope, courage, and a grateful heart.

DESERVING RECOGNITIONS

RECOGNITION FOR THREE FAITHFUL AMAA VOLUNTEER WORKERS

At the annual meeting of the Association in North Hollywood the President of the Association, Mr. George Philibosian, and the Executive Secretary, Dr. G. H. Chopourian, presented three faithful volunteer servants of the Association with appropriate plaques. The Armenian Missionary Association does not have a systematic program of graded recognitions, but there come appropriate times when as a result of local guidance the Association acts in appreciation. Therefore, the recognition the Association gives is founded on genuine contributions made by the recipients. We are happy to introduce these faithful servants to you in the persons of Mrs. Mary Ishkanian, Mrs. Helen Harikian, and Mr. James Koundakjian.



MRS. MARY ISHKANIAN: Her early training was in costume design which has been helpful to her not only in Sunday School but in other areas of church activities, such as play costumes, children's choir costumes, and so forth. Her particular training for the work of the AMAA was God's word, her love for Him, serving Him as He lead the way, teaching and guiding her through His Holy Spirit and not through formal education. Course work in the field of child psychology and Christian Education from Columbia University Extension, and bible study courses were part of her background training.

Her primary goal for the AMAA was missions' education to her entire church, starting with the first graders in Sunday School and teaching them to share what God had given to them with those who were not as abundantly blessed. Matthew 25:40 was the lesson which was the motivation behind her zeal and enthusiasm.

As she slows her pace of service to the AMAA she has passed on the mantle of leadership to people to take her place, Chuck and Ray Zoolalian, who excel in the work — but then isn't this the way God works!



MRS. HELEN HARIKIAN: Her interest in missions and AMAA's outreach in particular date back far beyond 1962 when she actively engaged in stimulating the formation of Women's Auxiliaries for Haigazian College to aid the already existing California Committee of dedicated people. In October, 1962, a Musical Tea was launched at the home of Mrs. Serpuhi Philibosian and by January of 1963 the Auxiliary was a reality, signing up to date 250 members and hoping to double that number this year.

The Auxiliary has helped Haigazian with scholarship, purchase of a grand piano, installing of heating unit in the Barsumian library; has given \$8,700 towards the purchase of books for the Barsumian library, a gift of \$10,000 towards construction of the lounge in the Mugar building, \$3,600 towards purchase of audio visual equipment, \$5,000 towards salary of professors of Armenology. Their commitment this year is again \$5,000 towards Dr. Babikian's salary.

In 1965, during her first trip to Beirut, she spoke of the Los Angeles Auxiliary and the advisability of founding one in Beirut. A coffee hour at the home of Dr. and Mrs. P. Mugrditchian, a second meeting with a half a dozen of community women and two years of correspondence, the Beirut Women's Auxiliary for Haigazian College was established in 1967 with the dynamic Mrs. Maggie Matossian as its President.

Then in 1970 the Fresno Auxiliary for Haigazian College was born at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Peters. When the need of an Auxiliary in Fresno was presented by Mrs. Lilian Hartunian, Chairwoman of the Los Angeles Auxiliary, and Mrs. Helen Harikian, the 16 people present at the Peters' home signed up, paid their dues of \$5.00 and went into action.

It is Mrs. H. Harikian's hope that others might catch the spirit and more auxiliaries might come into being in all the U. S. major cities. "It not only benefits the College," says Mrs. Harikian, "but those of us affiliated with it. This is open to all Armenians regardless of

Church or party. The College is open to all Armenian youth and we as Armenians must feel it a privilege to serve." Mrs. Harikian's spirit of devotion to the needs of Haigazian College, as well as that of her spouse, is demonstrated in the following personal testimony about her Christian outlook: "My interest in missions dates back to my early years. We were fortunate to have parents who believed in missions, who in turn trained us to give of ourselves and our resources. We were our brothers' keepers. Mother taught us to earn our mission giving to which I have adhered till now. Believing in mission and the importance of higher education, it is natural that I should be interested in Haigazian College. I feel it a great privilege to be associated with it and assist in anyway God directs."



MR. JAMES KOUNDAKJIAN: Son of a Pastor, Mr. Koundakjian has been interested in the mission of the church intensely all through the years. Before his moving to the warm country of California, he gave excellent leadership to the Missions Committee of the Armenian Memorial Church of Watertown for many years. In California, he was chairman of the California District Committee for numerous years and gave it an active role. Not only that, but he also worked hard to bring about the restructuring of the missionary thrust of the churches and the AMAA. In his own church, The United Armenian Congregational Church, he labored willingly and committedly in the Missions Committee or the AMAA Chapter of the church. He was depended upon for performing all the time-consuming and back-breaking work. Thus, for 25 years or more he provided continuous labor and inspiration for the Armenian Missionary Association.

The plaque that was presented to each one of them was in appreciation of 25 years' service or more and it was a time of gratefulness to God that He inspires His followers to extend help to the less fortunate.

We commend the labors of all three of them and pray for continued rich blessings upon them.

Miss Rose Kochakian Honored for Fifty Years of Service as Sunday School Teacher

Ara M. Vartabedian, five years old, and Dr. Aram S. Gulezian, 59 years old, presented Miss Rose Kochakian with a gift at a testimonial dinner in Haverhill, Mass., held in her honor. The two presenting the gift were her youngest and oldest Sunday School students, respectively.



It is indeed a most satisfying news that a person of such devotion will be recognized by her church leaders and friends. It is equally satisfying to read her humble devotion expressed in these words — "I do not feel that what I have done over the past 50 years has been any great sacrifice. It is simply that the work needed doing, and I just happened to be around."

We commend the Armenian Congregational Church in Haverhill and the Rev. Dr. Youhanna Mugar, Pastor of the Church, for recognizing the Christian service rendered by such a gifted and devoted individual.

Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary of Haigazian College Devotees

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Mehagian were honored at a luncheon in celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary, extended to them by their children Arthur and John, on October 23, 1974, in Paradise Valley, Arizona.

Mary Haigazian and Steven Mehagian were married on October 23, 1924, in Troy, New York, with Mary's grandfather, the Rev. D. L. Garabedian, officiating. Steve was a student of Mary's father at Jenanian College and knew Mary since she was eight. Professor Haigazian, President of Jenanian College, was Steve's hero, and Steve went to the extent of copying his mannerisms and acquiring his idealisms.

The Mehagians were instrumental in providing the stimulus for the founding of Haigazian College with an original gift of \$25,000. The College has grown in twenty years from a student body of 45 to over 600 and has already lined up a distinguished list of educated leaders.

We wish to join the three hundred friends who attended the celebrations with our good wishes and prayers that their days will be as beautiful and sunny as the Arizonian weather.

AMAA District Committee of the Armenian Evangelical Churches of the Near East

The Armenian Missionary Association of America was organized in 1918 for the purpose of assisting refugee Armenians in the Middle East. For fifty-seven years the Association has done everything within its ability to assist our compatriots.

We now rejoice greatly that we have seen the founding of the District Committee of the Armenian Missionary Association of the Armenian Evangelical

Churches of the Near East. This means that recipients will gradually, if we are patient, turn into donors. They will also, therefore, be strengthened in their spiritual life for it is in giving that one receives.

We are delighted to spread over the pages of this Newsletter the members of the District Committee whose activities have already started and AMA members have been registered in many of our churches and the Protestant community.



District Committee of the Armenian Missionary Association of Evangelical Churches in the Near East. Sitting, left to right: Rev. Barkev Apartyan, Vice-Chairman; Dr. Puzant Krikorian, Chairman; Rev. Assadour Sadakian; Dr. Alexander Sulahian, Assistant Treasurer. Standing, left to right: Mr.

Hovhannes Yacubian, Recording Secretary; Mr. Adour Bosnouyan; Mr. Issahag Sarrafian, Vice Recording Secretary; Mr. Untza Kassarian, Treasurer; Mr. Antranig Karaminassian; Mr. Sarkis Keshishian (not in picture).



Aleppo Members of District Committee of Armenian Missionary Association of Evangelical Churches in the Near East. Sitting, left to right:

Rev. Barkev Apartyan; Rev. Assadour Sadakian. Standing, left to right: Mr. Adour Bosnouyan, Mr. Issahag Sarrafian, Dr. Alexander Sulahian.

GIVING THROUGH LIFE INSURANCE

"Is it true that many people make gifts of property to their favorite charitable organizations?" went a conversation between two friends.

"That's true," Edward said, "It is often more convenient to give stocks or bonds, or real estate than cash. Often, there are special tax advantages when the gift is in the form of property."

"Well, I don't have property but most of my investments are in Life Insurance."

"Why not give a Life Insurance policy?" said Edward.

"Is it really possible to give Life Insurance policies as charities?"

"Certainly."

"How do I go about it?"

(If you are interested in further details about giving through Life Insurance, please write and request the brochure "The Hidden Giving Power in your Life Insurance Policies" and the booklet "Giving Through Life Insurance," and the AMAA will dispatch them to you at the earliest.)

Mr. Nishan Bizdikian's Four-Year Scholarship at Haigazian College

Mr. Nishan Bizdikian, a close friend of Mr. John Keyishian, has undertaken to provide scholarship for a student at Haigazian College for four consecutive years.

The Trustees of Haigazian College and the AMAA Board commend Mr. Bizdikian for his concern for higher education for Armenians.

Thank you Mr. Bizdikian!

AINTAB COMPATRIOTIC UNION SCHOLARSHIPS

The following students at Aleppo College received assistance from the income of the Aintab Compatriotic Union Endowment Fund that was established with the AMAA:

- Maggie Aslanian
- Elizabeth Balikian
- Koharig Balikian
- Lena Karamanougian
- Jacqueline Kheshevajian
- Aroussiag Ohanian
- Loussine Vassoyan
- Garabed Altounjian
- Zohrab Barsoumian
- Apraham Dervishian
- Raffi Missirian
- Viken Missirian
- Vazken Moumjian
- Haroutiun Tutunjian
- Mihran Yakoubian

TELFEYAN SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE AT UNIVERSITIES AND AMAA

We are pleased to announce the institution of a College Scholarship Program by the Telfeyan Evangelical Fund for the benefit of Armenians or Armenian descendants with need and ability. For the first year of this program, money is available at the following colleges and universities:

Columbia University
Raymond B. Anderson
Associate Dean
Graduate School of Arts & Sciences
New York, N. Y. 10027

Adelphi University
Patrick Harrison
Director of Office of Student
Financial Aid
Garden City, New York 11530

University of Chicago
William B. Cannon
Office of Vice President
Programs and Projects
5801 Ellis Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60637

Stanford University
Dean Edward Rubenstein, M.D.
School of Graduate Medicine
Stanford, Calif. 94305

University of the Pacific
McGeorge School of Law
Dean Gordon Schaefer
3200 Fifth Avenue
Sacramento, Calif. 95817

We are pleased to bring this information to the attention of all of our chaplains and missionary committees. Applications should be made directly to the universities in question.

Scholarship assignments for talented and needy Armenians, particularly for children of Armenian pastors, are also available through the AMAA. Application forms may be obtained on request from the Scholarship Committee of the Association.

MARRIED

The Reverend Dr. John J. Markarian, President of Haigazian College, and Inca Wilke were joined in marriage at Huntington, New York in December, 1974.

The Immediate Past President of the AMAA, Mr. George Philiposian and his wife Alice, and the Executive Secretary of the AMAA, Dr. G. H. Chourpourian were in attendance at the private ceremony.

We join in congratulations and best wishes.

CHAPLAINCY AT HAIGAZIAN COLLEGE

The Rev. Jirair Sogomian, Pastor of the Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit, has been offered the post of Chaplain at Haigazian College. We are happy to report that he has accepted the challenge and will be traveling to Beirut in February to take up this extremely challenging task.



The Haigazian College, established by the combined efforts of the AMAA and the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches, is a Christian institution in an age of secularization. Therefore, the task of cultivating the spiritual life of the youth is both complicated and a difficult one. Jirair, therefore, goes with the specific blessings of the AMAA and all our Churches. On November 29-30, 1974, the AEU-NA and the Board of Directors of AMAA commissioned him and recorded the following instructions to him:

- (1) to try to create a Christian atmosphere on the campus through personal contacts, retreats, conferences, discussion groups, etc.
- (2) to be a strong bond to relate the College to the Armenian Evangelical community through service projects and personally take part in the life and work of the local churches.

It is everybody's hope that God will be with him and his family to perform that which is pleasing and acceptable in His sight. The AMAA, trusting our people and with faith in God, has provided a substantial sum for the Chaplaincy at Haigazian College.

It was done with the hope that Christians will respond to the support of the Chaplaincy Program at Haigazian College with their gifts. We believe that the way to underwrite the substantial sum is to have sponsors who will provide for the program on an annual basis. As you all know, the AMAA gives as much as it receives. Please pray about your share in the Haigazian College Chaplaincy Program and respond to this need accordingly.

Sincere Condolences

In one or more of the following ways, the Association has learned of the death of AMAA donor members listed below.

- 1. The friends or immediate relatives of the deceased AMAA member informed the AMAA office of their demise.
- 2. The AMAA was made beneficiary of a will or an estate.
- 3. The AMAA was designated for the reception of gifts in lieu of flowers in memory of the deceased.

There may be other members of the AMAA who have departed from us but of whom we are not aware or somehow overlooked. The Board of Directors request that the AMAA office be kept informed. The Board would like to take this opportunity to extend its belated but heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased through the medium of this Newsletter.

- **Miss Zumruth Kachadurian
Modesto, Ca. February 12, 1974
- *Prof. Maurice G. Larian
E. Lansing, Mich. April 17, 1974
- *Mrs. Maritza Chertafian
Brooklyn, N. Y. August 17, 1974
- *Mr. Assadour Guekguezian
River Edge, N. J. September, 1974
- *Mr. Seth Sarkis Thompson
Phoenix, Arizona September 5, 1974
- *Miss Esther Matthews
Oakland, Ca. October, 1974
- Mr. Arsen Nerso
Bell, Ca. October 7, 1974
- **George M. Aintablian
Pekin, Illinois October 26, 1974

- Mrs. Rose V. Harzarian
San Marino, Ca. October 28, 1974
- *Mr. Harry Kuljian
Gladwyne, Pa. November 2, 1974
- *Miss Sophie Hagopian
Hamden, Conn. November 9, 1974
- *Mr. Shavarsh Janjigian
Fresno, Ca. November 11, 1974
- *Rev. M. P. Krikorian
Harrisburg, Pa. December, 1974
- *Mrs. Baidzar Najarian
Hackensack, N. J. December, 1974
- Mr. Manuel Kassouni
Fresno, Ca. December 17, 1974
- Mr. Hagop G. Chivittjian
Fresno, Ca. December 22, 1974
- *Mr. Edward Turmanian
Bethesda, Md. December 29, 1974
- *Mrs. Rose Shamlian
Nauvutuck, Ct. 1974
- Dr. Varastad H. Kazanjian
Belmont, Mass. 1974
- Dr. Levon Terzian
Kensington, Md. 1974
- Mrs. Nishan Hintlian
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